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Milk Production Up 12 Percent

Idaho milk production during July 1999 totaled 558 million pounds, up 12 percent from the same month last year and up 5 percent from June 1999. Average milk production per cow in July 1999 was 1,750 pounds, up 50 pounds from July 1998 and up 70 pounds from June 1999. The average number of milk cows in July was 319,000 head, 25,000 more than in July 1998 and 2,000 more than in June 1999.

Nationally, milk production in the 20 major States during July totaled 11.6 billion pounds, up 2.3 percent from production in these same States in July 1998. July milk production was down 1.2 percent from June 1999, compared to a decrease of 0.7 percent for the same period in 1998. June revised production, at 11.7 billion pounds was up 2.8 percent from June 1998. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,496 pounds for July, 28 pounds above July 1998. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.74 million head, 27,000 head more than July 1998 and 6,000 head more than June 1999.

Milk Production, Average Number of Cows, Selected States, July 1998-1999

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		1999 As Percent of 1998
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		
Arizona	132	135	1,530	1,620	202	219	108
California	1,421	1,468	1,625	1,705	2,309	2,503	108
Florida	159	159	1,140	1,220	181	194	107
IDAHO	294	319	1,700	1,750	500	558	112
Illinois	127	122	1,320	1,310	168	160	95
Indiana	136	136	1,350	1,360	184	185	101
Iowa	222	215	1,425	1,430	316	307	97
Kentucky	141	132	980	985	138	130	94
Michigan	305	292	1,540	1,540	470	450	96
Minnesota	550	545	1,400	1,435	770	782	102
Missouri	170	159	1,105	1,055	188	168	89
New Mexico	217	235	1,730	1,690	375	397	106
New York	700	702	1,450	1,470	1,015	1,032	102
Ohio	264	260	1,350	1,340	356	348	98
Pennsylvania	623	614	1,460	1,470	910	903	99
Texas	350	346	1,215	1,225	425	424	100
Vermont	161	162	1,430	1,450	230	235	102
Virginia	124	119	1,185	1,200	147	143	97
Washington	247	248	1,845	1,925	456	477	105
Wisconsin	1,366	1,368	1,445	1,430	1,974	1,956	99
20 STATE TOTAL	7,709	7,736	1,468	1,496	11,314	11,571	102

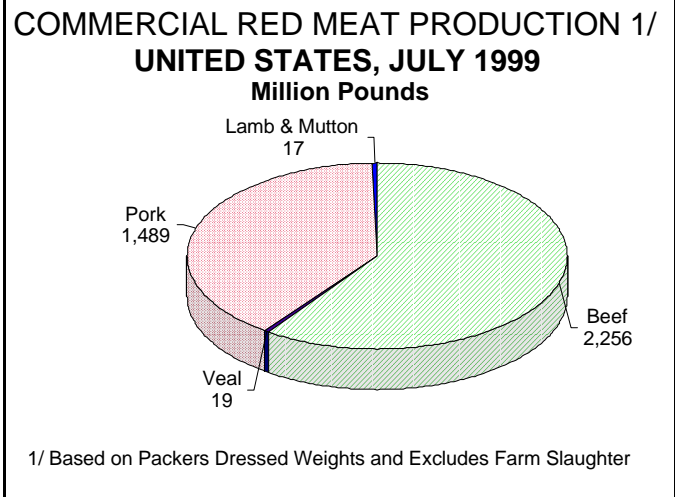
1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Idaho Red Meat Production Up 5 Percent

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for July 1999 totaled 51.5 million pounds, up 5 percent from last year. July production showed a 1 percent increase from June's 51.0 million pounds. Accumulated red meat production for the January - July 1999 period totaled 320.2 million pounds, up 1 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Red meat production for the United States totaled 3.78 billion pounds in July, equaling the previous record high for July set in 1998. Beef production, at 2.26 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.08 million head, up 1 percent from 1998. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 1,206 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.49 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.91 million head, 4 percent below 1998. The average live weight was 4 pounds above the previous year, at 256 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 17.0 million pounds, was down 3 percent from the previous record low for July set in 1998. Sheep slaughter totaled 265 thousand head, 6 percent below last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, up 4 pounds from July a year ago. January - July red meat production was 26.5 billion pounds, 3

percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 3 percent higher than last year, veal was down 14 percent, pork was up 3 percent, and lamb and mutton was down 7 percent.



Commercial Red Meat Production, Selected States and United States ^{1/}

State	July 1998	June 1999	July 1999	July 1999 As Percent Of 2/	
				July 1998	June 1999
	<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>	
California	87.9	88.7	85.3	97	96
Colorado	170.3	194.7	184.0	108	95
IDAHO	48.9	51.0	51.5	105	101
Illinois	209.4	212.6	213.6	102	100
Iowa	494.1	521.7	486.8	99	93
Kansas	496.9	550.1	541.4	109	98
Minnesota	151.2	170.0	157.4	104	93
Montana	1.7	1.9	2.1	123	111
Nebraska	580.2	602.3	572.9	99	95
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	87	136
Oklahoma	74.5	77.0	71.8	96	93
Oregon	3.5	3.9	3.5	102	91
South Dakota	84.9	82.7	74.2	87	90
Texas	426.4	443.2	436.1	102	98
Utah	41.5	45.6	41.7	100	91
Washington	59.5	32.9	51.8	87	157
Wyoming	0.4	0.4	0.4	110	95
UNITED STATES	3,781.1	3,940.4	3,781.4	100	96

1/ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. 2/ Percentages based on unrounded data.

Idaho Cattle On Feed Up 23 Percent

Cattle on feed for the slaughter market in Idaho from feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head on August 1, 1999 totaled 265,000 head, up 23 percent from the August 1, 1998 inventory of 215,000 head. The inventory was down 4 percent from the number on hand as of July 1, 1999.

Placements of cattle into State feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during July totaled 48,000 head, down 2,000 head from July 1998 placements. Marketings during July totaled 56,000 head, down 10,000 head from July 1998 marketings.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United

States from feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.20 million head on August 1, 1999, up 2 percent from August 1, 1998. Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.81 million, 6 percent below 1998. Net placements were 1.76 million.

During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 333,000, 600-699 pounds were 400,000, 700-799 pounds were 578,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 501,000. Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 2.12 million, 3 percent above 1998 but slightly below 1997. Other disappearance totaled 52,000 during July, 4 percent above 1998.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots ^{1/}

State	August 1, 1998	July 1, 1999	August 1, 1999		
			Number	As % of 1998	As % of July
	---1,000 Head ---		---Percent---		
Arizona	196	198	194	99	98
California	395	375	375	95	100
Colorado	840	1,020	960	114	94
Idaho	215	275	265	123	96
Iowa	245	310	290	118	94
Kansas	1,930	1,950	1,980	103	102
Nebraska	1,460	1,790	1,600	110	89
New Mexico	86	82	83	97	101
Oklahoma	370	325	325	88	100
South Dakota	134	140	125	93	89
Texas	2,640	2,530	2,480	94	98
Washington	150	215	202	135	94
Other States	335	345	320	96	93
United States	8,996	9,555	9,199	102	96

^{1/}Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

Frozen Potato Stocks Decrease 8 Percent From 1998

Frozen stocks of french fries in the United States on July 31, 1999, totaled 897.9 million pounds, a decrease of 7 percent from June 30, 1999, and 7 percent below July 31, 1998. Other frozen potatoes, at 243.7 million pounds, decreased 9 percent from June stocks and is down 9 percent from last year.

United States stocks of butter on July 31, 1999, totaled 118.9 million pounds, down 2 percent from the end of the previous month, but up 133 percent from July 31, 1998. Of this 118.9 million pounds, the government owned 334,000 pounds. Stocks of American cheese totaled 554.5 million pounds, up 3 percent from June 30, 1999. The government owned 48,000 pounds.

Commodity	July 31, 1998	June 30, 1999	July 31, 1999	1999 1998
	1,000 Pounds		Percent	
POTATOES:				
French Fries	967,452	965,960	897,929	93
Other Frozen	267,268	268,166	243,678	91
Total	1,234,720	1,234,126	1,141,607	92
DAIRY PRODUCTS:				
Butter	50,979	121,253	118,941	233
(Gov't Owned)	285	257	334	117
American Cheese	461,123	539,086	554,533	120
(Gov't Owned)	288	33	48	17

Farm Labor in July

For the Mountain I Region of the U.S. (Idaho, Montana and Wyoming), there were 31,000 hired workers on farms and ranches the week of July 11-17, 1999, the same as the number of hired workers the week of July 12-18, 1998. Hired workers worked an average of 44.6 hours during the survey week at an average wage of \$6.61 per hour, up 31 cents from last year.

There were 1.46 million hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 11-17, 1999, up 1 percent from a year earlier. There were 1.14 million workers hired

directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 319,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 12.5 percent of the July hired workforce compared to 13.7 percent last year.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$7.58 per hour during the July 1999 survey week, up 33 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$7.05 per hour, up 27 cents from last July. Livestock workers earned an average of \$7.15 per hour compared with \$6.91 a year earlier.

